PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c). No, Sir. Government had announced new Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1987 on 26th August, 1987 to stimulate production and ensure adequate availability of life saving drugs to the consumers. Copies of which were placed on the Table of the House. Government have also decided to monitor the prices of decontrolled drugs and have retained the right to bring within control any decontrolled drug at any point of time, if considered necessary.

Implementaton of new DPCO

2271. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the new DPCO, 1987 has been implemented, and if so, when the new prices will come into force;

(b) if not, what is holding up the implementation of the order; and

(c) how many companies have so far applied for approval of the new prices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SNGH) : (a) to (b). The new DPCO, 1987 came into force from the date of notification i.e. 26th August, 1987. Government have recently reduced the prices of some Category I formulations under DPCO, 1987.

(c) Companies have started submitting applications for price approvals under DPCO, 1987.

New Trade Margin

2272. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the new trade margin under DPCO 1987 is considered unworkable by the industry, if so ,whether there is any proposal to revise the new trade margin; and

(b) what is the additional burden of the new trade margin on the industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Some representations have been received in this regard and the matter is under examination.

(b) Precise estimates are not available.

Shortage of SAE Grade Engine Oil

2273. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been an acute shortage of 50 SAE grade engine oil which is recommended for use by some car manufacturers and reconditioned cars, etc.;

(b) whether it is also a fact that instead of this grade of oil, multi-grade 20—40 oil is being marketed by non-public sector units;

(c) whether it is a fact that multi-grade 20—50 SAE grade oil is being marketed at Rs. 130|- per tin of 5 litre whereas the public sector units are getting it at around Rs. 80|- per tin of 5 litres; and

(d) what has been the production of SAE 50 during the last three years, year-wise, and reasons for its present shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) No serious shortage of 50 SAE Grade Engine Oil which is recommended only for new and reconditioned Fiat and Premier Padmini Cars, has been reported;

(b) Some of the non-public sector oil companies are reported to be marketing mulit-grade 20—40 oils, in line with the demand and|or with SAE 50 grade or specially developed grade oils;

(c) While non-public sector oil units are reported to be selling multi-grade 20—50 oils at prices ranging upto Rs. 130/- and above per 5 litre tin, the selling prices of this type of grade oil by the public sector units range between Rs. 80 and Rs. 95.75 per 5 litre tin, (exclusive of local taxes);

(d) The production of SAE 50 grade engine oil during the last 3 years by the Public Sector Oil Companies (IOC, HPC and BPC) was as under:

Year	Quantity (Kls)
1984-85	10456
1985-86	12672
1986-87	9438

As stated above, no serious shortage of SAE Grade Engine Oil has been reported. The production is by and large in line with the demand.

Period of Immobility of Sagar Pragati Rig

2274. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Questions 197 and 901 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 9th November and 16th November, 1987 respectively and state:

(a) for how long period the 'Sagar Pragati' was immobilised;

(b) what was the total amount paid for charter hire of a jack up rig during the period the rig Sagar Pragati was immobilised;

(c) from whom the jack up rig was hired; and

(d) what is the cost of the back up rig?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) The rig 'Sagar Pragti' remained out of operation from 17th April, 1985 to 30th September, 1987.

(b) and (c) Hire charges for one jack up rig for the period Sagar Pragati was not in operation would work out to be US $ 15.57 million approximately. During this period eleven jack up rigs were on charter hire with the ONGC on the West Coast from different parties.

(d) The present cost of a jack up rig would be $ 40 million approximately.

Clearance of Petroleum complex Project

2275. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state.

(a) whether Petroleum Complex Project has been under consideration of the Government, if so, since when and what are the factors which are coming in the way of its clearance with details about the place, date of clearance financial out lay of the project, type of the management etc.,

(b) whether it its likely to be set up in private State or Joint Sector: and

(c) whether the letter of intent issued is to be converted into industrial licence and what are the further stages of progress in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Survey conducted by FICCI on cost overruns in Industry

2276. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of a survey conducted by the Federation